

SECOND SUB LEAD - MACARTHUR CONTROVERSY

CJ. P. & G. Thru. Apr. 12 - 51.

The latest tonight in the MacArthur contro^{ersy}_n is a declaration by Senator Taft of Ohio, Republican leader in the Senate. Taft, answering President Truman, says that the General spoke his mind so boldly, because he was afraid the administration was going in for a policy of appeasing the Chinese Communists. In a formal address, the Ohio Senator gave strong backing to the MacArthur proposals - that the United Nations forces bomb Chinese bases in Manchuria, and send the Chinese Nationalist army on Formosa against the Red mainland, for an invasion of Communist China. As for the danger of a general war, Taft said we should, in his own words "take a chance on Russian aggression."

But here comes a Republican Senator giving strong support to President Truman. Today Wayne Morris^{er} of Oregon, challenged the G O P talk of impeaching President Truman. In a senate speech, he argued vigorously that the President had the right to dismiss General MacArthur, and he cried: "God help

the American people, if the day comes when we do not retain civilian control over military forces."

MacArthur, meanwhile, is flying home on Monday. That's the latest about his movements. The information comes in a telegram to John Foster Dulles, the number one Republican ~~map~~ expert on foreign affairs, who is in charge of the task of drawing up a peace treaty with Japan. The General wired Dulles that he would leave Tokyo by plane on Monday -- but did not say specifically that he will return to the United States. ~~But~~ **The natural** assumption is -- that he will.

~~It begins to look as if etc.~~

MACARTHUR CONTROVERSY

(It begins to look as if General MacArthur will have a chance to address Congress.) Republicans are demanding it loudly. (The Democrats, at first, were strongly opposed. But, in Washington, there were signs today that their attitude was changing, coming around to the opinion that they might as well let MacArthur have his say.)

~~Republican leader in the House, Congressman Joe Martin, of Massachusetts, said this might happen next week. Yesterday his information was that the ousted Supreme Commander would return to this country in about three weeks -- by ship. But now he has later information that MacArthur may fly home next week.~~

There is much talk in Washington about a congressional investigation -- the Democrats now joining the Republicans in advocating one. But -- from a different slant entirely. The G O P demands ~~xxxxx~~ a congressional inquiry into the Truman removal of MacArthur, which would go into the whole business of American Foreign Policy in the Far East. But now

the Democrats come out for a quiz into the conduct of the Korean war - the reason for the set backs we had over there. — o —

There was a G O P call today for President Truman to resign. This emanated from Senator Welker of Idaho, who stated that the President should step out of office in behalf of National unity, and turn the White House over to Vice President Barkley.

~~However, there is less talk about a possible impeachment of President Truman and Secretary of State, Dean Acheson. Today Republicans in Congress were playing that down. Impeachment seems hardly in the realm of practical politics.~~

~~The Republican congressional Campaign committee states that it has received more than five thousand calls and telegrams, urging that the President be impeached. In Columbus, Ohio, a restaurant is calling on its patrons to sign an impeachment petition, and reports that three hundred signatures were had in a few hours.~~

MACARTHUR - DEFENSE

(General MacArthur presented his defense today,) ~~This he did~~ through the medium of his military secretary, General Courtney Whitney, who gave a statement to the newsmen.

(MacArthur does not believe he violated instructions from Washington, as President Truman charged.) ~~that he did~~ As for the directive ^{of} last December he points out that it applied to all sorts of officials -- requiring them not to make statements without an okay in Washington. MacArthur, declares that he did not think the directive meant him, in particular. He went ahead and observed it, sending war communiques to the Pentagon for approval, and was informed that they needed ~~no~~ such approval.

(The statement points to the fact that President Truman, in a news conference in January, denied there was any curb on MacArthur - the General being free "to speak freely on the Korean war.")

One Chief point of presidential criticism was the MacArthur statement that he was willing to

negotiate on the battle field with the Communist military leader. Another -- his letter advocating the use of Chinese Nationalist troops against Red China. So now the MacArthur argument is that both of these statements were in the province of military matters, and he had the right to give military opinions.

All of which constitutes a denial, point by point, of the charges that President Truman made in dismissing Douglas MacArthur from the post of Supreme Commander in the Far East.

MACARTHUR TOKYO

(The new Supreme Commander flew to Tokyo today to see the dismissed Supreme Commander.) (~~Lieutenant~~ General Matthew Ridgway, commanding the Eighth Army was at the war front, when he was informed yesterday, that he was the successor to General Douglas MacArthur. He says it took him completely by surprise, and it caught him in the middle of a battle - the Eighth Army starting a drive into the main defenses of the Reds. No time for a General to be absent.

But, as the new Supreme Commander, he had to go winging to Tokyo to discuss the change of ~~commander~~ ^{General} ~~Matthew~~ ^{Ridgway} arrived in battle dress, the outfit of a paratrooper ---because that's what he is, a veteran of aerial invasion in the Second World War. He even had a paratrooper's grenade swinging in front, as he went in to talk with MacArthur. "A delightful talk," General Ridgway said afterward.)

His visit to Tokyo was brief. It had been supposed that the new Supreme Commander would stay for

several days, but he was in Tokyo for only an hour, just long enough to discuss vital arrangements with General MacArthur. Then he flew back to the war front *where the 8th Army is driving into its main defenses* -- busy with his Eighth Army drive. It looks as if *of the 8th* the new Supreme Commander will stick to his old Eighth Army job at the fighting front, at least until his successor arrives -- General Van Fleet, *who is now* on his way from the United States.

After Ridgway left, MacArthur went for a moody ceremony. Leaving his residence, he drove by car to Supreme Headquarters in down town Tokyo, across the street from the Imperial Palace - visiting headquarters perhaps for the last time. A crowd of several thousand Americans and Japanese were gathered outside, tense and silent -- as Douglas MacArthur - erect, soldierly, and with a smile, entered the building.

He said goodbye to officers who had served under him, **B**ut that was not the farewell angle that caught most attention. As he left headquarters, walking

down a long hall to the elevator, he went to the Sergeant at the reception desk, Sergeant Vito Nelli, of Lansing, Michigan, a soldier who had served with him for four years. "Thank you, Sergeant, for the fine service you have rendered us", said MacArthur, and there was a warm handshake, with the Sergeant close to tears.

Then MacArthur spied Sergeant Domingo Adversari, a Filipino who has been with him for twenty years. "I want to see you up at the house before I go," the General told the Sergeant. To which he added that his wife and thirteen year old son also wanted to see the Filipino Sergeant.

Such was the MacArthur visit to Supreme Headquarters in Tokyo today -- for, likely enough, his last farewell.

(The air war in Korea is building up; which ties in with reports of a build up of Red air power in Manchuria. The Soviets are said to have given the Chinese Communists an armada of Russian-built jet fighters - M I G 15s. Which certainly would seem to be the case, with more and more enemy jets appearing, as shown by battles in the sky today.)

H (In Korea ^{to day.} There were two battles on high, ^{The} first was the biggest - the R_{ds} throwing into the fray more jet fighters than in any previous aerial engagement, eighty M I G 15s. These they hurled against a fleet of ^{our} B-29 bombers, ~~Between~~ thirty and ^{B-29s} forty, flew to blast a railroad bridge across the Yalu River, at Sinuiju. That span is all important - the ~~mix~~ bridge across which the Chinese Reds ~~had~~ had been pouring a large part of their forces down into Manchuria.

(~~From~~ their side of the Yalu, "that sanctuary of safety," the Chinese sent eighty- jet fighters) to keep the B-29's from bombing the bridge. But the Super

Fortresses were escorted by seventy-two United States Thunder Jets and Saber Jets -- and the air battle was on. The (Jets whirled, flashing and streaking, from miles on high; then almost down to the ground - in the greatest conflict of jets that has been known thus far)

During all this, the fleet of B-29s kept right on toward the target. There was heavy anti-aircraft fire from the ground, and they flew through patterns of exploding shells, as well as through the swarms of enemy jets. They were assailed by M I G 15s, and shot down one, and damaged another. Two more enemy fighters were victims of American jets, which probably destroyed two others, and damaged fourteen. We lost not a single plane, although two B-29s were hit and damaged.

The way those battles of jets are fought is pictured by Captain M. R. Jones, of Chicago, a member of the crew of one of the B-29s: "We could see enemy planes a mile out," says he. "Four of them made

a pass at us but broke off suddenly with four of our Sabre-jets hot on their tails". Jet fighters - protecting the big bombers. So the Super Fortresses accomplished their mission. They bombed the bridge across the Yalu, smashing it with direct hits.

(The second air battle was fought at a point to the southeast -- not long afterward. There twelve F-86 Thunder Jets tangled with Fifteen M I G's.) In a conflict that swirled from thirty-four thousand to four thousand feet, two enemy planes were shot down, and one damaged -- and, again, the American air squadrons incurred no losses. ¹¹ The total for the day for the two battles, shows five enemy jets shot down, two probably destroyed, fifteen damaged.)

HOLLYWOOD COMMUNISTS

The investigation of Communism in Hollywood brings an interesting picture of screen writers and the party. The star witness today was Richard J. Collins, a writer, who told how he was a Communist for nine years, from Nineteen thirty-eight to Nineteen forty-seven, then dropped out.

(He said the Communists became active in the screen Writer's Guild around Nineteen Thirty-Seven, and rode high for ten years. Then, in Nineteen Forty-Seven, the Reds lost out -- defeated in the election of officers in the Guild. That year, Nineteen Forty-Seven, was when the committee on Un-American Activities made its first investigation of Communism in Hollywood -- which made a lot of film people see the light, and turn against the Reds.)

Richard Collins today named names, twenty-four. ~~Forty~~ ^{who were} Writers ^{Hollywood} members of the Communist Party cell ~~in Hollywood~~ to which he belonged. He mentioned Ring Lardner Jr son of the famous writer. Ring Lardner Jr is one of the ten convicted for

contempt of Congress in the Nineteen Forty-Seven investigation, when they refused to answer the sixty-four dollar question -- are you a Communist?

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He also named Albert Maltz, and that brought the beguiling picture of how the writers were bossed by the Party, the Communist big shots exercising a censorship worthy of Stalin's own crowd. Maltz was irked by this, and wrote an article saying that Communist writers should have more freedom. Which brought a ton of Red bricks down on his head - freedom being contrary to the Party Line.

The witness today told how a Communist functionary, Samuel Sillen, went from New York to Hollywood to direct the chastisement of Maltz. He led a Hollywood Communist meeting ^{at} which he handed Maltz a blistering denunciation. After that, Maltz wrote another article repudiating the first one. ^{How now he} didn't think Red writers should have more freedom.

All of which threw the fear of Stalin into the hearts of the literary leftists, and, in the

words of the witness today - "there was a great fear of making a mistake like Maltz did".

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Collins named John Howard Lawson, another of the ten convicted of contempt for refusing to answer the sixty-four dollar question. He told how Lawson was writing a book, and had a lot of trouble keeping it on the Party Line. He wrote and re-wrote. The witness today declared that Carl Winter, identified as the Red organizer for Los Angeles County, met with Lawson to suggest changes. Which Lawson was - "eager to accept."

Another named was Bud Schulberg -- "who", said Collins, "got into trouble with the Party in Nineteen Forty-One, because of his best-selling novel 'What Makes Sammy Run', a stinging satire on Hollywood. That highly successful book violated the Party Line, and was panned without mercy by Communist newspapers. Schulberg did not take it with the usual submission and breast-beating. He dropped out of the Communist Cell in Hollywood -- quit the party. So stated the

witness today. Right now Bud Schulberg is the author of a current best-selling novel -- "The Disenchanted"; which is based on the life of the late ^{Young} novelist, F. Scott Fitzgerald.

It makes you wonder; ~~that~~ - how can writers, whose pride of profession is to be independent, go into a Red outfit that requires of them a slavish submission in their own writings?

Let's return for a few moments to the MacArthur story which has the whole world talking today. In fact, it is no exaggeration to say that the whole world is involved in the ^{the} controversy over the discharge of one man from his job. -- ^{which is} a reflection of the enormous prestige of Douglas MacArthur. But beyond ~~as~~ it all is the question of American Far Eastern policy, which might make the difference between -- war and peace.

There is one cheer for the President, which the President won't like. His MacArthur policy draws a loud cheer from Eugene Dennis, General Secretary of the Communist party.

Moscow today gave an opinion -- Soviet newspapers taking the line that MacArthur was dismissed because of failure in Korea.

Newspaper polls throughout the nation show a heavy majority in favor of MacArthur. At Columbus, Georgia, a newspaper straw vote gives MacArthur fifty to one over Truman.

In San Antonio, Texas, a MacArthur for President boom was launched today - resuming the movement back in Nineteen Forty-Eight, which didn't get anywhere.

At Ponca City, Oklahoma, the President and Secretary of State were burned in effigy. At San Gabriel, California, the President was hanged in effigy -- while in New York an A F of L union has ordered longshoremen to stage a two hour work stoppage in protest against his dismissal of MacArthur.

The General has even a chance to become an actor -- a Hollywood producer wiring him today, offering him a part in a play. Salary Thirty-Eight hundred dollars a week - in the role of a "dignified" General. I am glad it's dignified.

One casualty is reported. In Los Angeles, Henry Newcomb got into an argument with his wife over the firing of MacArthur, and hit her over the head with the family radio set.

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And now N - from this So. Pac. Ry. station high in the Sierras, back to you!